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Re: Council Bill 52 (2017) - Opposing the Bill

Members of the City Council
City & County of Honolulu
530 S. King St
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hawaii is known for its acceptance of many peoples and is in the forefront of the assimilation of many cultures, and we can be proud of this. It is by recognizing and learning about the history, cultures, and communities of our ancestors that we can appreciate and build a better community for Hawaii.


These historical buildings and residences add to the cultural value of the communities and neighborhoods which make up Hawaii. The charm and special architecture of the historical buildings in a neighborhood, are part of what help people take pride in their community. Whenever one of these 80-100 year old buildings is demolished, it is irreplaceable, and the community loses part of its family..

Architecture and history need to be protected and preserved. Residents value history and cultural significances of their communities and neighborhoods. They give people a sense of pride in belonging. Many visitors seek out tours of historical significance if there are any in a city.

Many of these homes were built at the turn of the century and are now 80-100 years old. They have character and specific architectural charm in their construction, different from present day construction. As time goes by and historical buildings are destroyed there will be less and less of these buildings and homes. We need to protect and preserve as many of these structures as possible to keep our history and pride in Hawaii alive. Without history, people easily grow up disenfranchised.

People need help to save what is irreplaceable . The craftsmen who have the expertise and the desire to repair and preserve these older structures are few. Many of the repairs need to be custom built: double hung multi-paned windows, decorative chimneys, gabled, mansard, or cedar shingled roofs with dormer windows, 10 " wide boards, shingle siding, oversized eaves, verandas, wainscoting, crown moldings, ohia wood floors, intricate designs, etc. Please vote to maintain the current tax exemption on Oahu's registered historic residences. The Historical Exemption is definitely needed.

Thank you for your attention and consideration,



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